QT 4/15/93

SEXUALITY

Homosexual activity lower than believed, study shows

Survey: Kinsey findings too high

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nearly one-fourth of American men under 40 have had 20 or more sexual partners during their lifetimes, and only 2 percent ever engaged in homosexual behavior, according to a major survey of sexual behavior released Wednesday.

In findings with significance for the fight against AIDS, the survey — funded by a federal agency — indicated more than a quarter of the men use condoms. But nearly one in five men felt wearing a condom gave the impression that either he or his partner had AIDS.

The survey also found that three-quarters of men engage in oral sex. On average, they have intercourse with a woman about once a week.

A team of researchers from the Battelle Human Affairs Research Centers in Seattle published a series of reports on their study in the March-April issue of Family Planning Perspectives, the magazine of the Alan Guttmacher Institute.

The researchers got a $1.8 million grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to conduct the survey, to find ways to encourage condom use and stop the spread of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

In the course of asking 3,321 men ages 20 to 39 in person and with promise of confidentiality about their use of condoms, the researchers also uncovered a wealth of information about sexual behavior.

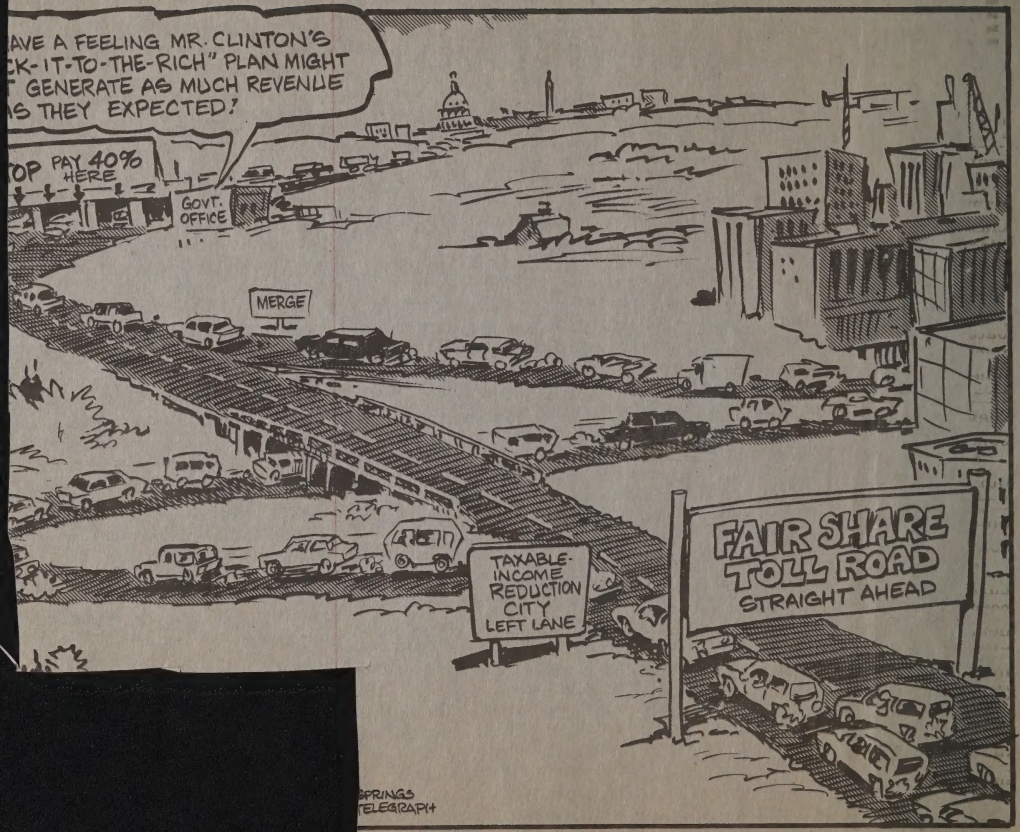
Only 2.3 percent of the men reported any homosexual activity in the past 10 years, and just 1.1 percent said they had engaged in exclusively homosexual sex. That is far less than the 10 percent homosexuality figure commonly attributed to the landmark Kinsey report from 1948.

"The percentages of same-gender sexual activity in our results appear slightly lower than those from some other recent surveys, but none is close to the 10 percent figure that persists from Kinsey's study," the report said.

OTHER FINDINGS:

- Ninety-five percent of men in their 20s and 30s are sexually experienced. Average age of first sexual contact was 17 for whites and 15 for blacks.
- Twenty-three percent have had sex with 20 or more women in their lifetime.
- Twenty percent had had anal sex, usually with a woman.
- The median number of female sex partners was seven for white men and 10 for black men.
- White men were less likely to use condoms (25 percent) than black men (38 percent) or Hispanic men (39 percent).
- Single men were twice as likely as married men (45 vs. 18 percent) to use a condom.

ASAY


AVE A FEELING MR. CLINTON'S
K-IT-TO-THE-RICH" PLAN MIGHT
GENERATE AS MUCH REVENUE
S THEY EXPECTED!
OP PAY 40% HERE
GOVT. OFFICE
MERGE
TAXABLE-INCOME REDUCTION CITY LEFT LANE
FAIR SHARE TOLL ROAD
STRAIGHT AHEAD
SPRINGS TELEGRAPH